

Message Text

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15

ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-03 AID-20 DPW-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19

OMB-01 TRSE-00 /150 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:LBLESSER/MW

APPROVED BY NEA:LBLAINGEN

S/ORM:TCOLE

AID/ASIA/SA:CHREES

IO/CMD:JMARTIN

D/PW:FSIEVERTS

AID/FDRC:RMCCCLURE (DRAFT)

NEA/PAB:PDCONSTABLE

----- 021665

R 022020Z NOV 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMCONSUL LAHORE

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: SREF, PK, BG, IN

SUBJECT: ICRC APPEAL FOR FUNDS

REF: A. GENEVA 5672 B. STATE 184354(NOTAL) C. STATE
184050 (NOTAL)

1. USG HAS MADE COMMITMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO ASSIST IN
INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM TO TRANSFER PEOPLE IN BOTH DIRECTIONS
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BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND BANGLADESH.

WE EXPECT TO PROVIDE SUBSTANTIAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO UNHCR-ADMINISTERED AIRLIFT PRESENTLY WELL UNDER WAY. INsofar AS ICRC ACTIVITIES IN SUB-CONTINENT CONTRIBUTE TO IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PROGRAM WE HAVE AN INTEREST IN ASSURING THAT ADEQUATE FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE FOR ICRC. ALTHOUGH WE SUPPORT SIR ROBERT JACKSON'S UN COORDINATING ROLE (REF B), IT IS OUR POSITION THAT INTERNATIONAL OR VOLUNTARY AGENCY ADMINISTRATION OF RESETTLEMENT PROGRAMS FOR RETURNED BENGALIEE AND PAKISTANI NATIONALS WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE, AND OUR CONTRIBUTION WILL NOT BE FOR SUPPORT OF SUCH PROGRAMS (FYI: OUR REASONING IS BASED ON NEED TO INTEGRATE AND ASSIMILATE RETURNING BENGALIEES AND PAKISTANIS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. OUTSIDE AGENCIES SERVE ONLY TO EMPHASIZE THEIR SEPARATENESS, COMPLICATING THE TASK OF ASSIMILATION. IF BDG OR GOP DEVISES RESETTLEMENT OR RE-INTEGRATION PROGRAMS REQUIRING OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE THEY CAN ADDRESS APPEALS TO POTENTIAL DONORS DIRECTLY ON THEIR OWN BEHALF, AND USG WOULD CONSIDER ANY SUCH APPEALS SEPARATELY

IN TERMS OF AVAILABLE COUNTRY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, AS DESCRIBED REF C. END FYI.)

2. IN THIS CONTEXT ICRC APPEAL AND REF A RESPONSES TO OUR QUESTIONS STILL LEAVE CONSIDERABLE UNCERTAINTY OVER SEVERAL ESSENTIAL POINTS, AS FOLLOWS:

A) PRECISELY WHAT ACTIVITIES ARE INTENDED TO BE COVERED IN BUDGET FOR WHICH ICRC MAKING CURRENT APPEAL?

B) SHOULD AMOUNTS RECENTLY RECEIVED FROM OTHER DONORS (DOLS 533,000) BY ICRC BE SUBTRACTED FROM TOTAL NEED, OR IS DOLS 1,365,000 NEEDED EVEN AFTER TAKING THESE CONTRIBUTIONS INTO ACCOUNT?

C) DOES ICRC HAVE OTHER MEANS OF OBTAINING INCOME? IN PARTICULAR, DOES ICRC GET REIMBURSED BY UNHCR OR OTHER SOURCE FOR SERVICES PERFORMED IN CONNECTION WITH AIRLIFT, I.E. TRACING OF PERSONS, DOCUMENTATION, OTHER FACILITATIVE SERVICES? IF NOT, COULD SOME ARRANGEMENT FOR REIMBURSEMENT FROM UNHCR AS OVERALL COORDINATOR BE WORKED OUT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INSTEAD OF RELYING ON SEPARATE APPEAL FOR FUNDS FROM SAME LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS AS UNHCR?

ICRC'S ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS WILL ASSIST USG IN DETERMINING RESPONSE TO ICRC APPEAL.

3. IN PLACING THIS SET OF QUESTIONS BEFORE ICRC OFFICIALS PLEASE MAKE IT CLEAR THAT USG FULLY APPRECIATES IMPORTANT

HUMANITARIAN ROLE ICRC HAS PLAYED IN SOUTH ASIA SINCE 1971 WAR. WHILE WE ARE SURE ICRC WOULD AGREE THAT CERTAIN OF ITS TASKS, ESPECIALLY THOSE RELATING TO INTEGRATION AND ASSIMILATION OF MINORITIES RETURNING TO OR REMAINING IN BANGLADESH AND PAKISTAN, SHOULD BE TURNED OVER TO BDG AND GOP, RESPECTIVELY, AS SOON AS FEASIBLE, WE RECOGNIZE THE DANGERS IF ICRC WERE TO TERMINATE ITS ROLE ABRUPTLY BEFORE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS WERE PREPARED TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITIES. RECOGNIZING THERE MAY BE NEED FOR HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO DISADVANTAGED POPULATIONS APART FROM REPATRIATION AND RESETTLEMENT NEEDS, USG IS INCLINED TO BE SYMPATHETIC TO ICRC APPEAL, INCLUDING FOR SUCH HUMANITARIAN PURPOSES. HOWEVER, WE UNABLE TO RESPOND CONSTRUCTIVELY IN ABSENCE IDENTIFICATION OF NEEDS AND DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED PROGRAMS BY ICRC.

4. REFS B AND C BEING REPEATED TO GENEVA. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SREF
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: collinp0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE216539
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: LBLESSER/MW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731157/aaaabprg.tel
Line Count: 132
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A.GENEVA 5672 B. STATE 184354(NOTA, 184050 (NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: collinp0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09-Oct-2001 by eisnerah>; APPROVED <05 MAR 2002 by collinp0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ICRC APPEAL FOR FUNDS
TAGS: PK, BG, IN
To: GENEVA DACCA ISLAMABAD NEW DELHI USUN NEW YORK KATHMANDU LAHORE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005